

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
WESTERN DIVISION
No. 5:15-CV-00282-FL

THOMPSON AUTOMOTIVE LABS, LLC,
Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant,
v.
ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS INC.,
Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff.

ORDER ON DEFENDANT/COUNTER-PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO SEAL

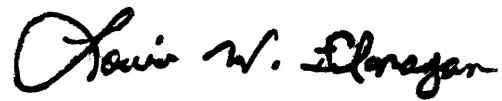
This matter is before the Court on Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff's Motion to Seal ("Motion"). After considering the Motion and supporting memorandum, the Court **grants** the Motion.

Specifically, the Court finds that the Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff has demonstrated that ITW's Filings—consisting of ITW's Memorandum in Support of Motion to Strike Expert Testimony; the Declaration of Eric Robertson in Support of ITW's Motion to Strike Expert Testimony with submitted exhibits; ITW's Memorandum in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment; ITW's Statement of Material Facts in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment; and exhibits submitted with ITW's Statement of Material Facts in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment—contain highly confidential, proprietary business information that merits protection under the Court's Amended Protective Order (see D.E. 75), the disclosure of which would result in competitive harm to Defendant-Counter/Plaintiff's business; that Defendant-Counter/Plaintiff's interest in maintaining confidentiality overcomes any presumption of public access under the First Amendment or common law; and that the public has not expressed any interest in the information at issue, and no party has objected to maintaining the documents under seal.

In addition, Defendant-Counter/Plaintiff has further limited the amount of information that is not publicly available by submitting redacted versions of ITW's Filings.

Accordingly, **IT IS ORDERED** that confidential designated portions of ITW's Filings shall be filed under seal.

SO ORDERED, this the 25th day of January, 2019.



District Court Judge